



The 20c commemorative for the 50th anniversary of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation will be issued Jan. 12 in Washington, D.C.



P.O. BOX 10206, BRIGHTON STATION, ROCHESTER, NY 14610

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## Buffalo club action

The Buffalo Stamp Club elected Walter J. Orton III its 1983-84 president.

The other officers include: James J. Wolf, vice-president; William Kleinfelder, secretary; and Richard H. McCready, treasurer.

The club meets every Friday from September through May at 8 p.m. in the Ramada Inn Buffalo Airport, 6643 Transit Road, Buffalo, N.Y.

The club conducts an auction on the last Friday of the month. Other meetings include lectures, slide programs, displays and advice on exhibiting and judging.

The club has scheduled its 1984 stamp show for Feb. 3-5 in the Ramada Inn. The show, which will include a bourse, auction and competitive displays, will be jointly presented

by a stamp club from Hamilton, Ont., Canada.

The 51st annual awards dinner will honor both clubs. The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, with free admission.

The club has chosen the 175th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln as the show theme. ■



Harry S. Truman

USA 20c

## Coming Events

- Jan. 12 "Silent Auction", 5 lots per member, CASH ONLY, Donation lot gladly accepted. Update on PHIL\*EX bus trip on Jan. 14..... Meeting starts at 8:00pm. Silent Auction at 8:20pm. New program- Philatelic Trade Hour, members are invited to sell, buy, or trade stamps and philatelic items starting at 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Members who haven't frequented Stamp shops or Shows may enjoy this new program as well as those who do.....
- Jan. 26 "Philatelic Covers", RPA members are asked to bring in and describe briefly a few of your interesting

Continued on 3

## U.S. troops get free franking

Congress recently passed a resolution formally permitting U.S. servicemen in both Grenada and Lebanon to send mail to the United States free, effectively giving them a military free frank privilege.

Technically, U.S. troops that invaded Grenada had the franking privilege under a long-standing U.S. Department of Defense ruling

that permits free mail for U.S. troops in combat zones.

The invasion was termed a combat zone for the purposes of mail privileges, according to Defense Department sources.

However, the continuing U.S. presence in Grenada is not considered a combat role, and so Congress was asked to extend the franking

privilege to remaining troops.

The same courtesy was belatedly given to U.S. troops in Lebanon at the same time.

Franked mail from the Grenada invasion is reportedly quite scarce, since there was continuing confusion over the mailing privileges for U.S. servicemen involved in that military action.

Franked mail from both Grenada and Lebanon should become more commonplace now, until the privilege is revoked. ■



Postes Canada  
Canada Post

## United States

**Jan. 3, Alaska.** Single 20¢ commemorative for 25th statehood anniversary. Vertical, standard commemorative size, panes of 50, 1 group of 5 plate numbers ("A" prefix). Fairbanks, Alaska 99701. (Linn's Dec. 12, page 24)

**Jan. 4, Olympics.** Block of four 20¢ commemoratives for the Winter Games featuring ice dancing, Alpine skiing, cross-country skiing and ice hockey. Vertical, standard commemorative size, panes of 50, 1 group of 4 plate numbers. Lake Placid, N.Y. 12946. (Linn's Dec. 12, page 24)

**Jan. 12, FDIC.** Single 20¢ commemorative for 50th anniversary of Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. Vertical, standard commemorative size, panes of 50. Washington, D.C. 20066. (Linn's Dec. 26, page 1)

**Jan. 26, Truman.** Single 20¢ stamp in Great Americans series for Harry Truman. Washington, D.C. 20066.

**Jan. 31, Love.** Single 20¢ regular issue. Washington, D.C. 20066.

**Feb. 1, Woodson.** Single 20¢ commemorative for Carter G. Woodson in Black Heritage USA series. Washington, D.C. 20066.

**Feb. 3, Railroad Caboose.** Single 11¢ definitive coil in Transportation series. Chicago, Ill. 60607.

**Feb. 6, Conservation.** Single 20¢ commemorative for Soil & Water Conservation. Denver, Colo. 80202.

**Feb. 10, Credit Union.** Single 20¢ commemorative for the 50th anniversary of the Credit Union Act of 1934. Salem, Mass. 01970.

**Feb. 24, Lillian Gilbreth.** Single 40¢ definitive in Great Americans series. Montclair, N.J. 07042.

**March 5, Orchids.** Four se-tenant 20¢ stamps: Pacific Calypso; Spreading Pongia; Yellow Lady's Slipper; and Wild Pink. Miami, Fla. 33152.

**March 12, Hawaii.** Single 20¢ commemorative for 25th statehood anniversary. Honolulu, Hawaii. 96820.

**March 25, Maryland.** Single 13¢ postal card for the founding of Maryland. St. Mary's City, Md. 20686.

**April 7, Baby Buggy.** Single 7.4¢ definitive coil in Transportation series. San Diego, Calif. 92199.



Sheets of the 1¢, 2¢ and 4¢ values of the set of six stamps issued for the 1901 Pan-American Exposition were accidentally printed with inverted centers. The 1¢ stamp showing the lake steamer *City of Alpena*, which has a catalog value of \$11,000 unused, with inverted center, is the most common of the three.

# Canada stamp program

**March 15, Yellowknife.** Single 32¢ commemorative.

**March 24, Year of the Arts.** Single 32¢ commemorative, also marks Montreal Symphony 50th anniversary.

**April 20, Jacques Cartier.** Single 32¢ commemorative, joint issue with France.

**May 18, Tall Ships Visit.** Single 32¢ commemorative.

**June 18, New Brunswick.** Single 32¢ commemorative.

**June 26, St. Lawrence Seaway.** Single 32¢ commemorative for 25th anniversary; possible joint issue with U.S.

**June 29, Canada Day.** Miniature sheet of 12 different 32¢ commemoratives featuring paintings.

**July 3, United Empire Loyalists.** Single 32¢ commemorative for British sympathizers who fled the U.S.

**Aug. 15, Glacier National Park.** Single \$1 definitive in National Parks series.

**Sept. 21, Lighthouses.** Four se-tenant 32¢ commemoratives featuring Canadian Lighthouses.

**Oct. 2, Steam Locomotives.** Second four stamps in Trains series: one se-tenant 32¢ pair; single 37¢ stamp; and one 64¢ stamp.

**Nov. 2, Christmas.** Three stamps: 32¢; 37¢; and 64¢.

**Nov. 9, Royal Canadian Air Force.** Single 32¢ commemorative for RCAF 60th anniversary.

**1985.** Third set of four in Trains series; Christmas.

**First day covers:** Canada levies servicing fees of 15¢ per cover when it affixes stamps to collectors' own FDCs, and 10¢ per cover when stamps are affixed to covers for hand-back first day servicing. Covers must arrive no later than date of issue for servicing. Official first day covers are 20¢ each, plus the value of the stamps affixed. All values are expressed in Canadian currency.

FDC servicing requests, orders for mint stamps and/or official FDCs, and requests for additional information or order forms should be sent to: Philatelic Service, Canada Post, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0B5, Canada.

Full details of each issue listed in these programs will be given in news stories throughout the pages of Linn's. Reference to the date and page of Linn's where those stories appeared is given at the end of each entry.

Scott and Minkus catalog numbers are reported as received, and are subject to change.



CANADA POSTAGE POSTES



Canada's experimental Stick 'n Tick labels were a success in many respects. Canada Post is still evaluating the results. ■



## JPA-APS producing youth pamphlet series

The Junior Philatelists of America and the American Philatelic Society are producing a new series of educational philatelic pamphlets aimed primarily at youth, according to the JPA.

Written by Vic Pawlak, editor of the JPA's *Philatelic Observer*, and printed by the APS, at least four pamphlets will be distributed by the thousands at clubs, schools, libraries and exhibitions nationwide.

The titles are "Ten Ways to Start Collecting for Free," "How to Avoid Common Mistakes as a Beginning Stamp Collector" and two different "Philatelic Seek and Find Puzzles."

The JPA, an affiliate of the APS, is also an APS national branch chapter and a member of the Council of Philatelic Organizations.

The organization offers auctions, a pen pal and translation service, informal study groups, a first day cover service and other benefits. Besides the pamphlet series, the JPA also plans a writing contest.

Regular membership is open to all collectors ages 21 and under. Supporting membership is available for those who wish to encourage juniors, and graduate membership is available to former regular members.

Chapter membership for lo-

cal and regional junior and/or adult clubs is also available. Details can be obtained from the JPA Central Office, Box 216, Maplewood, N.J. 07040.

A stamped, addressed envelope or International Reply Coupons should be included. ■

### Rate hike coming

Postmaster General William F. Bolger confirms that rates may increase as early as next October.

Bolger now indicates that the U.S. Postal Service will request a rate increase of 3¢ for the basic letter rate (23¢, up from the current 20¢) and 2¢ for postcards (15¢, up from 13¢).

# NEWSBRIEFS

## APS sets new youth exhibit standards

New standards for the judging of youth exhibits at the national level were announced at STAMPSHOW '83, the annual convention and exhibition of the American Philatelic Society held in Pittsburgh, Pa., in August.

Nancy B. Zielinski, chairman of the APS Youth Activities Committee, noted that the new standards will enable shows across the country to apply uniform treatment to young exhibitors.

"Making the exhibiting process an educational experience as well as standardizing the manner in which youth exhibits are handled by judges is a major step forward to turn exhibiting into a very worthwhile activity for the young collector," said Mrs. Zielinski.

Exhibitors, under the new plan, are divided into four age groups: 11 years and younger; 12 and 13; 14 and 15; and 16 and 17.

Separate judging forms are available for traditional and topical exhibits, each based on the sheets currently used at youth competitions sponsored by the Federation Internationale de Philatelie.

The new plan is designed to lead logically into both the FIP youth program and the U.S. national-level adult competitions.

The forms, available from APS, Box 8000, State College, Pa. 16803, will be used by the judges during their deliberations.

A composite review, reflecting the consensus of the jury, will be provided each youth exhibitor. The approach will enable the exhibitor to learn what the jury found especially good about the exhibit, as well as what could be done to improve it.

This review will be received by the youngster, whether or not he is able to attend the show's judging critique session. ■

**PHIL-EX**  Canada

### INTERNATIONAL STAMP SHOW

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JAN. 13th to JAN. 15th, 1984

THE SHERATON CENTRE

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HOURS: Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.;  
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● Admission \$2.00

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From 1

covers. All members present will be called upon so be prepared please.....Also a short slide program will be presented..... 8:00pm.

Philatelic Trade Hour starts at 7:00pm.....

Feb. 9 "U.S. Possessions", slide program. ROPEX'84 Update... 8:00pm. Philatelic Trade Hour starts at 7:00pm. Bring a friend.....

Feb. 23 "Live Auction Night", 5 Lots per member, CASH ONLY, Donation Lots gladly accepted. The Kodak Stamp Club has been invited to this RPA Meeting. The Auction will start at 8:15pm. Philatelic Trade Hour starts at 7:00pm. ROPEX'84 UPDATE. Mar. 8 "Slide or Movie Program" and short Business Meeting, 8:00pm.

Mar. 22 "ROPEX'84 SETUP", plan now to help setup the exhibits at the Downtown Holiday Inn which will start at 5:00pm until the exhibits are finished. Food & drink will be provided. Members only. Members who help setup will be rewarded. ROPEX needs your help.....5:00pm.

March 23 - 25 ROPEX'84 National Exhibition opens at Downtown Holiday Inn.

Apr. 12 "Silent Auction" 8:00pm.

Apr. 26 Open

May 10 Speaker/slide program.

May 24 Open

June 14 Annual RPA Business Meeting and Officer Election. 8:00pm.

June 28 Annual RPA auction & Banquet. Summer recess.....

\* All programs are subject to change....



# U.S. to take no action in Iranian stamp case

By Stephen G. Esrati

The United States will not block mail bearing Iranian stamps showing a blindfolded American and a burning U.S. flag (Linn's Dec. 12, page 5).

The policy was announced Dec. 16 by Postmaster General William F. Bolger, who called the stamps "repulsive, a vicious distortion of a criminal act by Iran and an insult to all Americans."

When news arrived Nov. 10 that Iran had issued the stamp (original news reports said three stamps) to celebrate the fourth anniversary of the seizure of the U.S. embassy in Tehran, a spokesman for the USPS was immediately asked what action the United States would take under Article 28, Section 1d of the Universal Postal Union convention.

The article had been often invoked by East Bloc countries to refuse mail bearing stamps to which they took political exception (see related story on page 52).

The spokesman, Ron Powell, had not heard of the article and said he would check.

Now, more than a month later, the United States has decided it will do nothing. Bolger said the United States believes that under international convention it cannot block the mails.

Therefore, it is up to individual recipients of letters bearing the stamp to write "REFUSED" across the address. Bolger promised that such letters will be returned to the sender.

Powell checked with the in-



Mail bearing the Iranian stamp showing a blindfolded American and burning U.S. flag will not be blocked in the United States.

ternational division. It checked with the State Department.

Powell said the State Department had been consulted because of the controversial and delicate nature of the stamp. "We want to get their reading on it, although they will not be able to tell us what to do," he said.

Until Dec. 14, no policy had been adopted. The USPS was still trying to make sure the

Iranian stamp was intended for international mail.

Powell said there had been no complaints from postal patrons, and there had been only two inquiries — one from Reuters news service and the other from me.

On Dec. 15, Paul Byrnes, director of the Office of Technical and Specialized Agencies in the State Department (which deals with the UPU), said, "We have committed ourselves against interfering with the mails. We are going to protest to the UPU."

That night the Associated Press carried a story from California where a college had received an application for admission from Iran bearing the stamp.

The local postmaster was going to call Washington the next morning to get information.

The next day the USPS spokesman announced that the official policy of the United States would be that any postal patron who objects to the stamp can give the letter back to the Postal Service for return to Iran.

It was not clear whether Iran would have to pay postage on the refused mail. ■

## USPS reveals space covers total

A total of 260,899 covers were carried aboard the eighth space shuttle mission Aug. 30 to Sept. 5, according to James Bruns of the United States Postal Service.

The covers were very near sellout at press time. Full details will be forthcoming.

## STAMP SHOWS... 1984

### NEW YORK

**Feb. 3-5** Buffalo, N.Y.  
BUFPEX '84 Stamp Exhibition and Bourse. Ramada Inn, 6643 Transit Road. Buffalo Stamp Club. Walter J. Orton, 2265 Long Road, Grand Island, N.Y. 14072. Admission free. Hours Friday noon to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special show cancel available.

**Feb. 10-12** Ithaca, N.Y.  
Stamp, Coin, Other Exhibition and Bourse. Pyramid Mall, North Triphammer Road and Route 13. Ithaca Philatelic Society. John E. Barrett, Box 188, Ithaca, N.Y. 14851. Admission free. Hours Friday, Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

**FEB 25-26**,  
COLLECTOR SHOW,  
DOWNEY ARCADE  
ALBANY COUNTY  
PALE GREENS

**March 18** Cheektowaga, N.Y.  
Postcard Exhibition and Bourse. Club 1581, 4499 Genesee St. Buffalo Postcard Club. Lee C. Bowen, 641 Fletcher St., Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150. Admission \$1. Hours 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Special show card available.

**ROPEX 1984**  
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**April 13-15** Buffalo, N.Y.  
ALPEX '84 Stamp, Coin Exhibition and Bourse. American Legion Post 799, 385 Paderewski Drive. Plewacki Post Stamp Society. Stanley A. Keane, 295 Barnard St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14206. Admission free. Hours Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special show cancel available.

**CANADA**  
**Jan. 13-15** Toronto, Ont.  
PHIL-EX Canada Stamp Bourse. Sheraton Center, 123 Queen St. W. Canada Philatelic Exhibitions, Ltd. David B. Bastedo, Box 980 Station K, Toronto, Ont. M4P 2V3 Canada. Admission \$2; seniors and children 50¢. Hours Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special show cancel available.

Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc.

**RPA**

POST OFFICE BOX 3806  
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